

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Please substitute the attached sheet (figures 2-4) of formal drawings for the drawing sheet containing figures 2-4 originally filed with the application.

The drawing sheet attached in connection with the above-identified application containing figures 2-4 is being presented as a new formal drawing sheet to be substituted for the previously submitted drawing sheet containing figures 2-4. The drawing figure 3 has been amended.

The specific change, which has been made, is as follows:

The reference numeral 36a has been added to Figure 3.

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

In the specification, on page 12, line 17 “duct 36” was changed to read duct “36a.” The reference numeral “36a” was added to Figure 3. Claim 1 is requested to be cancelled. Claims 2-8 are currently being amended and claims 9-13 are new claims.

This amendment adds, changes and deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

Specification

In the specification, Applicant amended page 12, line 17. The words “duct 36” were amended to read, “duct 36a.” Applicant respectfully submits that this amendment was done for clarification purposes only, and that no new matter has been added.

Drawings

The reference numeral 36a was added to Figure 3 for clarification purposes. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been added.

Claim Objections

In the Office Action, claims 4 and 5 were objected to for various formalities. Claims 4 and 5 have been amended to resolve the informalities noted by the Examiner. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the objections be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks Examiner for acknowledging that claim 6 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form and included all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In response, Applicant amends and rewrites claim 6 in independent form

to include all of the limitations of claim 1. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn and claim 6 be allowed.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

In the Office Action, claims 1-5, 7 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stange in view of Bigenwald et al. In response, without acquiescing or agreeing to the rejection, Applicant cancels claim 1 and amends and rewrites claim 6 in independent form to include all the limitations of claim 1. Further, Applicant amends claims 2-5, 7 and 8 to depend from independent claim 6 as amended, and are allowable for at least that reason. Thus, Applicant requests that the rejection be withdrawn and claims 2-5 and 7-8 be allowed.

New Claims 9-13

New claims 9-13 have been added to further define the invention. Support for claims 9-13 can be found at least on pages 7, 10 and 12 of the specification. These claims are believed to be patentably distinguishable over the cited art of record. Therefore, Applicant submits that claims 9-13 are allowable for at least that reason and respectfully requests that new claims 9-13 be allowed.

Conclusion

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 2-13 are now pending in this application. Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 - 1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to

Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date January 14, 2005

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